

May 17, 1958

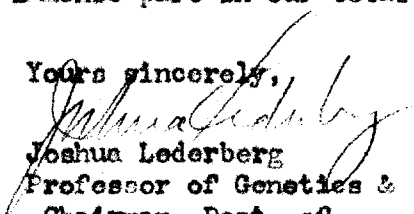
Dr. Lee DuBridge
President, California Institute of Technology
Pasadena 4, California

Dear Dr. DuBridge:

The New York Times, some weeks ago, carried an account of a talk you gave (I think in San Francisco) which was critical of emphasis on space research and development at the expense of other aspects of our national life. What I could read about it was so refreshing in contrast to the flow of nonsense we have been exposed to-- I am moved to ask whether you have a copy of your whole text that you might let me have to read.

I've just returned from a conference on 'Possible Uses of Earth Satellites in Life Sciences' and was impressed and disturbed by the extent to which manned spaceflight has been accepted as an end-in-itself without regard to the inherent values, in various spheres, of the missions themselves. That this conference was sponsored by the AIBS, NAS and (according to the announcement) NSF may strengthen the impression that there is unmitigated scientific support for this particular approach to the exploration of extra-terrestrial space, and for its immense part in our total scientific effort.

Yours sincerely,


Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics &
Chairman, Dept. of
Medical Genetics